



# GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

MAKING HISTORIC INVESTMENTS IN  
KIDS, SCHOOLS, AND SKILLS



Governor Whitmer believes every kid deserves a phenomenal public education and has worked across the aisle to make record investments from preschool to postsecondary.

## Making historic investments in students and schools

- Delivered [\\$9,150 per student](#) funding, the highest ever, without raising taxes. [Proposed a budget](#) to raise per-student investment by \$458, up a total of 22% since taking office.
- [Closed the funding gap](#), ensuring every school district has the same baseline funding.
- Increased funding for at-risk, English language learners, and special education.
- Secured [\\$214 per student](#) for on-campus mental health and school safety needs and [proposed continuing funding](#) for the next two years.
- Opened [100 school-based health clinics](#), expanded access to after-school programs, and increased on-campus [mental health professionals](#).
- Invested [\\$250 million](#) to modernize and upgrade school infrastructure and proposed an [additional \\$1 billion](#) in the FY 2024 budget.
- Signed a bill assisting schools with [providing funds](#) for school security, technology, transportation, and facility upgrades.
- Signed a bill reducing red tape for schools by removing a duplicative requirement where the Michigan Department of Education assign letter grades and rankings.
- Proposed free [breakfast and lunch](#) for all 1.4 million public school students.
- Signed a [financial literacy bill](#) requiring high schoolers to take a financial literacy course.
- [Tripled](#) literacy coaches serving in schools to help every child read by third grade.
- [Eliminated waiting lists](#) and funded the [expansion](#) of the Great Start Readiness Program, ensuring every eligible four-year-old can attend preschool.
- Funded risk assessments and critical incidence mapping to help schools [protect students](#) and create safety plans in the event of an emergency.

## Investing in teachers and staff

- Created the Mi Future Educator Scholarship offering \$10,000 scholarships to 2,500 future educators annually, funded Grow Your Own programs. Programs will hire or train an [additional 10,000 teachers](#).
- Invested [nearly \\$300 million](#) to support teacher recruitment, training, and retention.
- Proposed \$325 million for [literacy professional development](#) and educator mentoring.
- Thanked educators by providing premium pay with the [MI Classroom Heroes](#) program.

## Keeping kids in class and responding to unfinished learning

- Signed a restoration of [parent's rights in education](#), allowing families to decide with educators to promote or hold back their child.
- [Reintroduced MI Kids Back on Track](#), a [\\$300 million plan](#) to tackle unfinished learning and [secured over \\$50 million](#) to expand tutoring across the state.
- Kept students safely learning in person by [expanding testing and screening](#) in schools.
- Ensured students had the [support and services](#) they needed during the pandemic.
- Established [Michigan Parent's Council](#), engaged over 13,500 parents, and proposed a [budget](#) that reflected their priorities.

## Expanding access to education and skills after high school

- Set the [Sixty by 30 Goal](#) to have at least [60% of Michiganders](#) earn a degree or skill certificate by 2030 and created the Office of Sixty by 30 to lead the state's efforts.
- Created [Michigan Achievement Scholarship](#) to lower the cost of college by thousands.
- Established [Michigan Reconnect](#) to offer Michiganders 25 and up tuition-free associate degree or skills certificate in high-demand careers. Over [100,000+](#) accepted. [Proposed](#) lowering the age for participants to 21, expanding eligibility to 350,000 more.
- [Futures for Frontliners](#), offers Michiganders who served on the frontlines of the pandemic tuition-free paths to postsecondary education or skills training. Over 85,000 accepted.
- Strengthened our [community colleges and universities](#) with operational increases—including establishing minimum per student funding at universities for the first time.
- Proposed [investments](#) to help more students graduate.
- Signed an executive directive to lower costs and reduce the student loan burden on Michiganders.

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